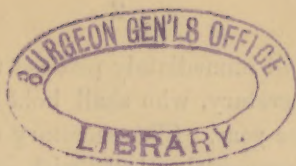


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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-five.

AN ACT

TO ESTABLISH A BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

SECTION 1. The governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall appoint nine persons, residents in this Commonwealth, who shall be graduates of a legally chartered medical college or university having the power to confer degrees in medicine and surgery, and who shall have been actively employed in the practice of their profession for a period of not less than ten years, who shall constitute a board of registration in medicine and surgery. Such persons shall be appointed and hold office, beginning on the first day of July next, three for one year, three for two years, three for three years ; and thereafter the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall appoint before the first day of July in each year three persons qualified as aforesaid to hold office for three years from the first day of July next ensuing. No member of said board shall belong to the faculty of any medical college or university, nor shall more than four members of said board belong to the same medical society or school of medicine. All vacancies occurring in said board shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of this act for the establishment of the original board. Any member of said board may be removed from office for cause by the governor with the advice and consent of the council.

SECT. 2. The members of said board shall meet on the second Tuesday of July next, at such time and place as they may

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determine, and shall immediately proceed to organize by electing a chairman and secretary, who shall hold their respective offices for the term of one year. The secretary shall give to the treasurer of the Commonwealth a bond with sufficient sureties, to be approved by the governor and council, for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office. The said board shall hold three regular meetings in each year, one on the second Tuesday of March, one on the second Tuesday of July, and one on the second Tuesday of November, and such additional meetings at such times and places as they may determine.

SECT. 3. It shall be the duty of said board, immediately upon its organization, to notify all persons practising medicine or surgery in this Commonwealth of the provisions of this act, and every such person who is a graduate of a legally chartered medical college or university having power to confer degrees in medicine and surgery, and every person who shall satisfy said board that he has been a practitioner of medicine or surgery in this Commonwealth continuously for a period of ten years prior to the passage hereof, shall upon the payment of a fee of one dollar be registered as a physician and surgeon, and said board shall issue to him a certificate thereof signed by the chairman and secretary.

SECT. 4. Any person not entitled to registration, as aforesaid, shall upon payment of a fee of ten dollars be entitled to examination, and if found qualified by five or more members of said board, shall be registered as a physician and surgeon, and shall receive a certificate thereof provided for in section three. Any person refused registration may be reexamined at any regular meeting of said board within one year of the time of such refusal, without additional fee, and thereafter he may be examined as often as he may desire upon the payment of the fee of ten dollars for each examination. Said board, for cause shown and after hearing, may by unanimous vote revoke any certificate issued by them and cancel the registration of the person to whom the same was issued. All fees received by the board under this act shall be paid by the secretary thereof into the treasury of the Commonwealth once in each month.

SECT. 5. The compensation and incidental and travelling expenses of the board shall be paid from the treasury of the Commonwealth. The compensation of the board shall be five dollars each for every day actually spent in the discharge of their duties, and three cents per mile each way for necessary travelling expenses in attending the meetings of the board, but in no case shall any more be paid than was actually expended. Such compensation and the incidental and travelling expenses shall be approved by the board and sent to the auditor of the Commonwealth, who shall certify to the governor and council the amounts due, as in case of all other bills and accounts approved by him under the provisions of law : *provided*, that the amounts so paid shall not exceed the amount received by the treasurer and receiver general of the Commonwealth from the board in fees, as herein specified ; and so much of said receipts as may be necessary is hereby appropriated for the compensation and expenses of the board as aforesaid.

SECT. 6. The board shall keep a record of the names of all persons registered hereunder, and a record of all moneys received and disbursed by said board, a duplicate whereof shall always be open to inspection in the office of the secretary of the Commonwealth. Said board shall annually report to the governor, on or before the first day of January in each year, the condition of medicine and surgery in this Commonwealth, which report shall contain a full and complete record of all its official acts during the year, and shall also contain a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the board.

SECT. 7. It shall be the duty of the board to investigate all complaints of disregard, non-compliance, or violation of the provisions of this act, and to bring all such cases to the notice of the proper prosecuting officers.

SECT. 8. After July, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, the said board shall examine all applicants for license to practise medicine and surgery in this Commonwealth. Applicants must give satisfactory proof of being twenty-one years of age, and of good moral character.

SECT. 9. Examinations shall be, in whole or in part, in writ-

ing, and shall be of an elementary and practical character. They shall embrace the general subjects of anatomy, surgery, physiology, chemistry, pathology, and obstetrics, and shall be sufficiently strict to test the qualifications of the candidate as a practitioner of medicine and surgery.

SECT. 10. Whoever, not being registered as aforesaid, shall practise medicine or surgery, or advertise or hold himself out to the public as a physician or surgeon, or practitioner of medicine or surgery, in this Commonwealth, shall be punished by fine of not less than fifty, nor more than five hundred dollars.

SECT. 11. This act shall not apply to commissioned officers of the United States army, navy, or marine hospital service, or to a physician or surgeon who is called from another state to treat a particular case, and who does not otherwise practise in this state, or to prohibit gratuitous services in cases of emergency.

SECT. 12. For the purposes of the appointment of said board and of registration of persons by them hereunder, this act shall take effect upon its passage, and shall take full effect on the first day of January in the year eighteen hundred and eighty-six.